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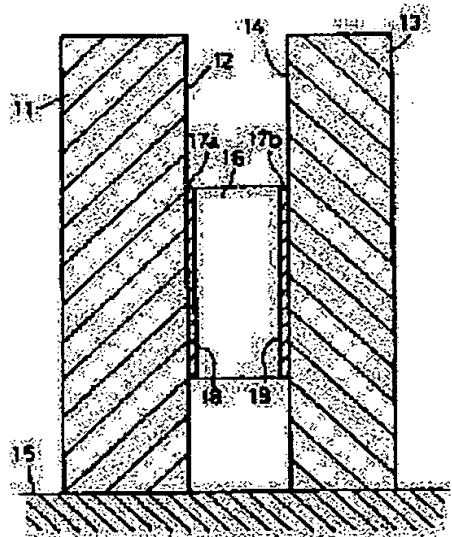
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(54) MOVABLE STAGE DEVICE

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To improve productivity and precision of a movable stage device by locating a movable stage between the reference plane of a first base member and the surface of a second base located in opposition thereto while the movable stage is supported in a non-contact manner with the reference plane and the surface by means of respective guide means, and increasing the rigidity of the reference surface side of the guide means.

CONSTITUTION: A second base 13 is located at a predetermined interval from a first base 11 having a reference plane 12 which has been finished by precision machining so that the plane 14 of the second base 13 is parallel to the reference plane 12. A movable stage is located between this reference plane 12 and the plane 14 by providing respective guide parts 17a, 17b. An air hole is provided for each guide part 17a, 17b. An air bearing function is provided by supplying air from the outside to form an air film and adjusting the pressure of the air film to set the rigidity of the guide part 17a higher than that of the guide part 17b. In addition, the plane 18 of the movable stage 16 is precisely finished while the precise flatness of plane 19 is not required.



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